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40₁ and 40₂, each channel must be demultiplexed and routed to the receiver located in the transponder designated for the particular optical signal channel.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-65 are pending.

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment before the first office action.

Claims 1-65 are pending herein.

The specification is amended to correct certain printing errors in which the mathematical symbol " λ " printed incorrectly due to a computer/printer error in the originally-filed pages.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by this preliminary amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

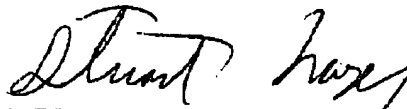
CONCLUSION

Applicant submits Claims 1-65 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

FEES

If there are any fees due and owing in respect of this Amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge the undersigned attorney's PTO Deposit Account No. 50-1047 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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